Bangladeshi infiltrators deported to Bangladesh

*60. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the presence of good number of Bangladeshi infiltrators;

(b) if so, the efforts being made to check the infiltration identify the settled infiltrators and deport them to Bangladesh; and

(c) the number of Bangladeshi infiltrators deported to Bangladesh during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) India's long and porous border with Bangladesh, geographical proximity, family ties and ethnic similarity, coupled with better economic opportunities in India have resulted in illegal migration from Bangladesh. In addition, some Bangladeshi nationals, who enter India with valid travel documents, also tend to overstay for similar reasons.

(b) Central Government is vested with the powers to deport a foreign national under section 3(2) (c) of the Foreigners Act, 1946. These Powers to identify and deport illegally staying foreign nationals have also been delegated to the state Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Initiatives taken to check such illegal immigration and infiltrations from Bangladesh include:-

(i) Construction of border roads, border fencing and flood lighting.

(ii) Round the clock surveillance of the borders by Border Security Force (BSF) patrols (both land and riverine).

(iii) Establishment of 1185 border outposts of which 802 outposts have already been set up.

(iv) Provision of modern surveillance equipments including night vision devices to the Border Guarding Forces.

(v) Bilateral cooperation with the Government of Bangladesh aimed at coordinated patrolling and management of borders, especially where fencing is incomplete or not feasible.

(c) As per the information available, the number of Bangladeshi nationals who came on valid travel documents, overstayed and were thereafter deported during the last three years are indicated below:-

2005	—	14,916
2006	—	13,692
2007	—	12,135

(The data is year specific. Data for the year 2008 has not yet been compiled. Deportation is a continuous process).